



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**TOXICITY AND IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE EFFECTS OF DIAZINON IN
GRASS CARP, CTENOPHARYNGODON IDELLA (CUVIER AND
VALENCIENNES)**

REZA POORGHOLAM

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By

REZA POORGHOLAM

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia in
Fulfilment of Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

May 2005



DEDICATION

WITH LOVE AND APPRECIATION TO:

My parent: Rajabali Pourgholam and Sedigheh Sajoodi

My wife: Sekineh Dashti

My sons: Hamzeh, Moheballi and Mohammadali

Abstract of the thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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Chairman: Associate Professor Hassan Hj. Mohd Daud, Ph D

Faculty : Veterinary Medicine

Grass carp is one of the valuable warm water fish species that is currently being cultured in polyculture system in Iran. Despite of large scale grass carp farming in the East Asian countries, only minimum data is available concerning the fish immune system and the effect of organophosphate chemicals on the fish immune response. Diazinon is one of the major organophosphate pesticides currently used in Northern and Southern part of Iran. Unfortunately, these areas are also the main regions for grass carp culture and there are regular reports of the disease outbreaks particularly in the provinces of Gilan and Khozestan. In addition, previous studies has indicated that *Aeromonad* septicemias was one of main factor in the high mortality occurrences in the grass carp, in particular whenever the fish immune system seems to be suppressed by some toxicants.

The specific objectives of this study were: (i) determination of 96-h LC₅₀ diazinon in grass carp; (ii) purification and partial characterization of grass

carp IgM; (iii) assessment of some humoral and cellular immunoresponses of non- immunized and immunized grass carp, following exposure to diazinon.

In this study, LC_{50} of diazinon at 96 hour in grass carp was determined to be 15.13 mg/L. The examination of hematological and tissue enzyme parameters indicated that diazinon at sublethal levels had caused an effect similar to anemia. In addition, a significant decrease of lymphocytes values and significant increase of PMNs values were observed. There were also significant and insignificant changes in some blood parameters such as monocytes and myelocytes counts, MCH, MCHC, AST, ALP, ALT and LDH values at different days of post exposure of diazinon. Such fluctuations indicated that fish hematopoietic tissues were in stress and were in constant struggles to maintain normal condition.

The pathological effects of diazinon on the liver, kidney, spleen, gills, and nostrils of grass carp examined under light and electron microscope, showed that diazinon caused severe damage to the cell structure such as congestion of blood vessels, haemorrhage, cellular infiltration, pyknosis of cells nuclei, vacuolar degeneration and general necrosis in the tissues of kidney, spleen and liver. There were also degenerative changes of interstitial tissue, detachment of tubular basement membrane in kidney. In the gills, hyperplasia and fusion of secondary lamellae, separation and sloughing of epithelium from the underlying basement membrane were also observed.

In the lysozyme study it was indicated that grass carp reacted to diazinon by raising the level of lysozyme in tissues of spleen and kidney and also in

serum of *Aeromonas*-immunized fish exposed to diazinon and control positive (immunized only), as compared to control negative (non-immunized and not exposed to diazinon). However, the level of lysozyme in immunized fish exposed to diazinon is lower than control positive that indicated the depressive effect of toxicant on fish immune system. Analysis on data of leucocytes chemiluminescent response indicated that cellular factors of fish immunity following immunization with *A. hydrophila* and also under influence of diazinon, responded by changing its functional activities, as evidenced by a high chemiluminescent response in both of immunized fish exposed to diazinon and control positive groups as compared to the control negative group. However, the level of chemiluminescent response in immunized and exposed group was insignificantly lower than control positive group that indicated the negative effect of diazinon on fish immune system. In summary, all of the above findings proved the immunosuppressive effect of diazinon on nonspecific immune system of grass carp.

The level of IgM in serum of normal grass carp was found to range from 3 to 4 mg/ml. Estimation of molecular weight of grass carp IgM was performed using three different methods. Affinity chromatography method gave the approximate values of about 480 and 640 KDa in SDS-PAGE, while gel chromatography and ion-exchange chromatography methods showed an identical molecular weight with an approximate value of 490 KDa.

In antibody study, the titers of immunized fish were significantly higher than immunized fish exposed to diazinon. In addition, a strong positive correlation

was also demonstrated between the results of ELISA and agglutination titers. These observed results confirmed the immunosuppressive effect of diazinon on specific immune system of grass carp.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia
sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**Ketoksidan dan Kesan Imunotindas Diazinon pada Ikan Kap Rumput,
Ctenopharyngodon idella (Cuvier and Valenciennes)**

Oleh

REZA POORGHOLAM

Mei 2005

Pengerusi: Profesor Madya Hassan Hj. Mohd Daud, Ph D

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Kap rumput adalah salahsatu spesis ikan air suam yang bernilai tinggi buat masa ini di kultur dalam sistem polikultur di Iran. Meskipun penternakan ikan kap rumput dijalankan secara besar-besaran di negara Asia Timur, tetapi cuma terdapat data minima mengenai sistem keimunan ikan dan kesan bahan kimia organofosfat ke atas ransangan imun. Diazinon adalah racun serangga utama pada ini digunakan di Utara dan Selatan Iran. Walau bagaimanapun, kawasan ini adalah juga kawasan utama untuk ternakan ikan kap rumput dan terdapat laporan pencetusan penyakit ikan di daerah Gilan dan Khozestan. Tambahan lagi, kajian terdahulu telah menunjukkan bahawa septisemia *Aeromonads* adalah Salah satu faktor utama yang menyebabkan kejadian kematian yang tinggi pada ikan kap, terutamanya apabila sistem keimunan ikan tertindas oleh bahan-bahan toksid.

Objektif spesifik kajian ini adalah : (i) penentuan LC_{50} diazinon pada 96-jam pada ikan kap rumput ; (ii) permurnian dan pencirian separa IgM kap rumput;

(iii) penilaian beberapa ciri ransangan imun humoral dan selular ikan kap yang diimun dan tak diimun, selepas didedahkan kepada diazinon.

Di dalam kajian LC_{50} diazinon pada 96-jam pada ikan kap rumput, nilainya ditentukan pada 15.13 mg/L. Pemeriksaan parameter hematologikal dan tisu enzim menunjukkan diazinon pada aras subletal telah menyebabkan kesan sama seperti anemia. Di samping itu terdapat penurunan bererti dalam nilai limfosit dan peningkatan bererti dalam nilai PMN. Disaksikan juga perubahan yang bererti dan tak bererti dalam nilai-nilai parameter darah yang lain seperti bilangan monosit dan mielosit dan nilai-nilai MCH, MCHC, ALP, ALT dan LDH. Perubahan-perubahan tersebut menunjukkan tisu hematopoietik adalah dalam situasi tindasan dan sentiasa berjuang untuk berada dalam keadaan normal.

Kesan patalogikal diazinon pada hepar, ginjal, limfa, insang dan rongga nasal yang dilihat dibawah mikroskop cahaya dan elektron menunjukkan bahawa diazinon telah menyebabkan kecederaan teruk pada struktur tisu seperti kongesi saluran darah, hemoraj, penyusupan sel, piknosis nukleus sel, degenerasi perlompangan dan nekrosis am di dalam tisu ginjal, limfa dan hepar. Terdapat juga perubahan degeneratif pada tisu perantaraan dan perlucutan tapak membran sel tubular ginjal. Pada insang, hiperplasia dan percantuman lamela skunder, perpisahan dan penghakisan epitelium daripada tapak membran juga dapat dilihat.

Di dalam kajian lisozim, ia menunjukkan bahawa kap rumput bertindakbalas terhadap diazinon dengan meningkatkan aras dalam tisu limfa dan ginjal dan juga serum ikan yang diimunkan selepas pendedahan kepada diazinon dan dalam kumpulan kawalan positif (diimunkan), jika dibandingkan dengan kumpulan kawalan negatif (tidak diimunkan dan tidak didedahkan kepada diazinon). Walau bagaimanapun, aras lisozim dalam ikan terimun terdedah pada diazinon adalah lebih rendah dari kumpulan kawalan positif yang mana membuktikan bahawa kesan tinds toksikan terhadap sistem imun ikan. Analisis terhadap data ransangan pendaflorkimia leukosit, menunjukkan bahawa faktor selular imuniti ikan selepas imunisasi dengan *A. hydrophila* dan di bawah pengaruh diazinon, bertindak dengan menukar fungsi aktiviti yangmana dapat dilihat pada gerakbalas tinggi dalam pendarfluorkimia dalam ikan yang diimun dan terdedah kepada diazinon dan kumpulan kawalan positif dibanding dengan kumpulan kawalan negatif. Walau bagaimanapun, aras gerakbalas pendarfluorkimia di dalam kumpulan ujian adalah lebih rendah, walaupun tidak bererti, menunjukkan kesan negatif diazinon terhadap sistem imun ikan. Kesimpulannya, penemuan membuktikan kesan imunotinds diazinon terhadap sistem imun tak spesifik ikan kap rumput.

Manakala aras IgM dalam serum ikan kap rumput normal berada dalam renj 3-4 mg/L. Anggaran berat molekul IgM kap rumput telah dibuat menggunakan tiga metod yang berbeza. Metod kromatografi affiniti memberi nilai anggaran 480 dan 640 KDa dalam SDS-PAGE, sementara kromatografi

gel dan kromatografi tukaran-ion menunjukkan berat molekul yang identikal
yaitu bernilai anggaran 490 KDa.

Dalam kajian antibodi, titer dalam ikan yang diimun adalah lebih tinggi dan
bererti dari ikan yang diimun dan didedahkan kepada diazinon. Tambahan
lagi, korelasi positif yang kuat telah ditunjukkan di antara keputusan ELISA
dan titer agglutinasia. Penemuan membuktikan kesan immunosupresif diazinon
terhadap sistem imun spesifik ikan kap rumput.

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I certify that an Examination Committee met on 12th May 2005 to conduct the final examination of Reza Poorgholam on his Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled "Toxicity and Immunosuppressive Effects of Diazinon in Grass Carp, *Ctenopharyngodon idella* (Cuvier and Valenciennes)" in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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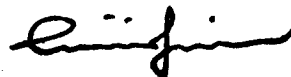
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.



REZA POORGHOLAM

Date : 20 Jul 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	xi
APPROVAL	xiii
DECLARATION	xv
LIST OF TABLES	xix
LIST OF FIGURES	xxii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxvi

CHAPTERS

1. INTRODUCTION

2. LITERATURE REVIEW	12
2.1. Fish immunology	12
2.2. Fish immunotoxicology	31
2.3. Grass carp, <i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i> (Cuvier and Valenciennes)	47
2.4. Toxicant- Diazinon	54
2.5. Immunomodulator - <i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i>	61

3 DETERMINATION OF 96 h LC₅₀ OF DIAZINON IN GRASS CARP CTENOPHARYGODON IDELLA (Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1844)	70
3.1. Introduction	70
3.2. Materials and Methods	71
3.2.1. Fish and maintenance	71
3.2.2. Toxicant	71
3.2.3. Acute toxicity	72
3.2.3.1. Determination of survival rate:	72
3.2.3.2. Determination of lethal concentration of diazinon for grass carp (death-limit)	72
3.2.3.3. Determination of LC ₅₀ at 96 hr:	73
3.2.4. Hematological and biochemical study	74
3.2.5. Data analysis	75
3.3. Results	76
3.3.1. Acute Toxicity Experiment	76
3.3.1.1. Survival rate	76
3.3.1.2. Determination of the lethal concentration of diazinon	76
3.3.1.3. Determination of LC ₅₀ of diazinon	77
3.3.2. Hematological and biochemical study	79
3.3.3. Clinical and behavioural signs	79
3.4. Discussion	83



4. PURIFICATION AND PARTIAL CHARACTERIZATION OF SERUM IMMUNOGLOBULIN FROM GRASS CARP, <i>CTENOPHARYNGODON IDELLA</i> (CUVIER AND VALENCIENNES, 1844)	88
4.1. Introduction	88
4.2. Materials and Methods	90
4.2.1. Immunization of fish	90
4.2.2. Purification and molecular weight determination of IgM	90
4.2.2.1. Gel filtration chromatography	90
4.2.2.2. Affinity chromatography	90
4.2.2.3. Ion-exchange chromatography	91
4.2.2.4. SDS-PAGE	92
4.2.3. Protein determination	92
4.2.4. Western blotting assay	93
4.2.5. Dot blotting assay	94
4.3. Results	95
4.3.1. Purification and molecular weight determination of fish IgM	95
4.3.2. Total serum protein	95
4.3.3. Western blotting	96
4.3.4. Dot blotting	96
4.4. Discussion	103
 5. ASSESSMENT OF SOME HUMORAL AND CELLULAR IMMUNORESPONSES OF NON- IMMUNIZED GRASS CARP, FOLLOWING EXPOSURE OF DIAZINON	 106
5.1. Introduction	106
5.2. Materials and methods	109
5.2.1. Fish and maintenance	109
5.2.2. Diazinon exposure	109
5.2.3. Collection and processing of samples	110
5.2.4. Lysozyme assay	111
5.2.5. Chemiluminescent assay	112
5.2.6. Hematological and biochemical study	112
5.2.7. Histopathological study	113
5.2.8. Electron microscopy	113
5.2.8.1. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)	113
5.2.8.2. Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)	114
5.2.9. Statistical analysis	115
5.3. Results	115
5.3.1. Lysozyme assay	115
5.3.2. Chemiluminescent assay:	116
5.3.3. Hematology and biochemical studies	118
5.3.4. Histopathology study	130
5.3.5. Electron microscope examination	143
5.4. Discussion	149
 6. ASSESSMENT OF SOME HUMORAL AND CELLULAR IMMUNORESPONSES OF IMMUNIZED GRASS CARP,	 159
6.1. Introduction	159
6.2. Materials and methods	164
6.2.1. Fish and maintenance	164

6.2.2. Antigen preparation	165
6.2.3. Immunization of fish and application of diazinon	165
6.2.4. Collection and processing of samples	165
6.2.5. Lysozyme assay	166
6.2.6. Chemiluminescent assay	168
6.2.7. Anti-grass carp IgM preparation:	168
6.2.8. Antibody titration	169
6.2.8.1. Microagglutination test	169
6.2.8.2. ELISA	170
6.2.9. Challenge test with virulent strain of <i>A. hydrophila</i>	171
6.2.10. Hematological and biochemical study	173
6.2.11. Statistical analysis	173
6.3. Results	174
6.3.1. Lysozyme assay	174
6.3.2. Chemiluminescent response (CL)	174
6.3.3. Microagglutination titration	177
6.3.4. Challenge test with <i>Aeromonas hydrophila</i>	177
6.3.5. Hematological studies	179
6.4. Discussion	186
7. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION	193
REFERENCE	213
APPENDICES	239
BIODATA OF THE AUTHOR	240

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1.1 Aquaculture and inland fish production (metric tonne) in I.R.IRAN	5
1.2 Aquaculture and inland fish production (metric tonne) in I.R.IRAN in 2003	5
3.1 The lethal concentration of diazinon for grass carps	76
3.2 Cumulative mortality of grass carp at 24, 48, 72 and 96 hrs exposure to various concentrations of diazinon	77
3.3 Determination of diazinon lethal concentration for grass carps	77
3.4 Erythrocyte profile of grass carp following exposure to diazinon (5.6 mg/L) at 16°C	80
3.5 Leucocyte profile of grass carp following exposure to diazinon (5.6 mg/L) at 16°C	81
3.6 The effect of diazinon (5.6 mg/L) on enzyme activities, cholesterol, triglyceride, glucose and total protein of blood plasma of grass carp at 16°C	82
5.1 Levels of lysozyme ($\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ of tissue) in spleen, kidney and serum of grass carp exposed to diazinon at 20-22°C	117
5.2 Intensity of spontaneous and activated chemiluminescent response (impulse/second) of leucocytes of grass carp exposed to various concentrations of diazinon at 20-22°C	119
5.3(a) Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on haematological indices of grass carp at day one post-exposure at 20-22°C.	121
5.3(b) Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on biochemical indices of grass carp at day one post-exposure at 20-22°C.	122
5.4(a) Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp at day 7 post-exposure at 20- 22°C.	123
5.4(b) Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on biochemical indices of grass carp at day 7 post-exposure at 20-22°C.	124

5.5(a)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon hematological indices of grass carp at day15 post-exposure 20-22°C	125
5.5(b)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on biochemical indices of grass carp at day15 post-exposure 20-22°C	126
5.6(a)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on hematological indices of grass carp at day 30 post-exposure at 20-22°C.	127
5.6(b)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on biochemical indices of grass carp at day 30 post-exposure at 20-22°C.	128
5.7(a)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on haematological indices of grass carp at day 45 post-exposure at 20-22°C.	129
5.7(b)	Effects of various concentrations of diazinon on biochemical indices of grass carp at day 45 post-exposure at 20-22°C.	130
5.8	Histopathological scores of grass carp's liver exposed to various concentrations of diazinon at 20-22°C.	131
5.9	Histopathological scores of grass carp's spleen exposed to various concentrations of diazinon at 20-22°C.	132
5.10	Histopathological scores of grass carp's kidney exposed to various concentrations of diazinon at 20-22°C.	133
5.11	Histopathological scores of grass carp's gills exposed to various concentrations of diazinon at 20-22°C.	134
6.1	Immunization, diazinon exposure and bacteria challenge of grass carp held at 18- 20° C (n=320)	172
6.2	Levels of lysozyme (µ/mg tissue) in spleen, kidney and serum of grass carp exposed to diazinon (2 mg/L) at 18- 20° C (n=90)	175
6.3	Intensity of spontaneous and activated chemiluminescent response(impulse/second) of leucocytes of grass carp exposed to of diazinon (2 mg/L) at 18-20° C (n=90)	176
6.4	Antibody titers of grass carp immunized with <i>A. hydrophila</i> , exposed and unexposed to diazinon (2 mg/L) at18- 20° C (n=90)	177
6.5	Antibody production in grass carp immunized with <i>A. hydrophila</i> antigens and exposed to diazinon and PBS at 18-20°C	178
6.6	Cummulative mortality of immunized and unimmunized grass carp challenged with <i>A.hydrophila</i> and exposed to diazinon	179

6.7	Effects of 2 mg/L of diazinon exposure on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp (n = 90) at day one post-exposure.	181
6.8	Effects of 2 mg/L of diazinon exposure on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp (n = 90) at week one post-exposure.	182
6.9	Effects of 2 mg/L of diazinon exposure on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp (n = 90) at week 2 post-exposure.	183
6.10	Effects of 2 mg/L of diazinon exposure on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp (n = 90) at week 3 post-exposure.	184
6.11	Effects of 2 mg/L of diazinon exposure on hematological and biochemical indices of grass carp (n = 90) at week 4 post-exposure.	185

LIST OF FIGURES

Figures		Pages
1.1	Map of I.R. IRAN showing the areas of warm water aquaculture	6
2.1	Structural formula of diazinon (Eisler, 2000)	54
3.1	Experimental design of acute toxicity examination of diazinon in grass carp	74
3.2	The sigmoid curve of dose response for the 96h LC ₅₀ determination of diazinon	78
3.3	Probit of the mortality versus log-dose of exposure grass carp for the diazinon 96h LC ₅₀ determination	78
4.1	Gel filtration of 1ml grass carp serum on Sephadex G-150. The peak indicated by the arrow is rich in IgM	97
4.2	Protein elution profile of grass carp serum from affinity column. Application of whole serum to the column (A) was followed by the detection of a large protein peak (A-B). The column was washed with PBS buffer (B) and the bound protein was eluted from the agarose beads (C) by the glycine elution buffer, resulting in the second protein peak containing the affinity purified grass carp Ig (C-D). Each line segment between two points represents individual fractions	98
4.3	Chromatography of grass carp IgM on Ion-exchange column. Elution was carried out using a linear gradient 0-0.6mM NaCl. The IgM eluted as two separated peaks (peak 1 and 2)	99
4.4	SDS-PAGE with 12% polyacrylamide gel stained with Coomassie Blue under non-reducing conditions for estimation of molecular weight of grass carp IgM. Lanes 1 and 7: Urease (marker), Lanes 2 and 8: BSA (marker), Lanes 3 and 4: normal fish serum, Lanes 5 and 6: grass carp affinity-purified IgM	100

5.8	Degeneration of interstitial tissue of kidney (DI) and severe necrosis of basement membrane of tubule cells (arrow) and necrosis of glomerulus (arrow head) were also seen at 7 days post-exposure to 4 mg/L diazinon (H&E, x488).	138
5.9	Normal tissue of liver (H&E, x488)	138
5.10	Generalized liver degeneration as indicated by pyknotic nuclei (arrow) in the paranchyma. Also seen hepatopaneas showing loss of structural integrity (arrow head) in fish exposed to 2 mg/L diazinon at day 30 post-exposure (H&E, x122).	139
5.11	Focal necrosis (arrow) in the liver manifested by the presence of pyknotic cells and pale-staining area, seen at day 45 post-exposure to 2 mg/L of diazinon (H&E, x488).	139
5.12	Vacuolar degeneration of hepatocytes (arrow), at day 7 post exposure to 2 mg/L of diazinon (H&E, x488).	140
5.13	Generalised vacuolar degeneration and pyknosis of hepatocytes nuclei (arrow) at day 7 post-exposure to 4 mg/L diazinon (H&E, x488)	140
5.14	Normal structure of gills: primary lamellae (PL), secondary lamellae (arrow head) and mucosal cell (arrow) (H&E, x740)	141
5.15	Gills lamellae of grass carp at day 7 post-exposure to 2 mg/L diazinon showing proliferation of secondary lamellae (arrow). Separation and sloughing-off epithelium (arrow head) from the underlying basement were also seen (H&E, x122).	141
5.16	Gills lamellae of grass carp at day 15 post-exposure to 2 mg/L diazinon showing hyperplasia and fusion of secondary lamellae (arrow). Separation and sloughing-off epithelium (arrow head) from the underlying basement were also seen (H&E, a= x244 and b= x488).	142
5.17	Normal structure of cells lining grass carp's nostril. Note the sensory cell (SC) epithelial cells (EC), mucous cells (MC), basement membrane (BM) and connective tissue (CT), (H&E, x488).	142

5.18	Grass carp's nostril at day one post-exposure to 1 mg/L diazinon showing denudation of epithelial surface (arrow) (H&E, x488).	143
5.19	TEM micrograph of vacuolated epithelial cells (arrow) of grass carp's nostril exposed to 4 ppm diazinon at 20-22°C and normal epithelial cells (EC), (x3, 439 um)	144
5.20	(A) TEM micrograph of vacuolated epithelial cell of grass carp's nostril with abnormal nuclei (AN), (x7, 410) and (B) Normal epithelial cell with normal nuclei (NN), (x7, 410).	144
5.21	SEM micrographs of nasal epithelial cells of normal grass carp showing amorphous proteinaceous materials, vesicles and cell surface canals, Mag: A= x800, B= x2500, C= x5000, D= x8000.	145
5.22	SEM micrograph of nasal epithelial cells of grass carp exposed to 1 ppm diazinon showing an increase in droplet on the cell surface. Mag: A= x500, B= x1000, C= x2500, D= x5000.	146
5.23	SEM micrograph of nasal epithelial cells of grass carp exposed to 2 ppm diazinon showing a reduction in excretion of amorphous proteinaceous materials, vesicles numbers and blockage of cell surface canals. Mag: A= x800, B= x1000, C= x2500, D= x1500.	147
5.24	SEM micrograph of nasal epithelial cells of grass carp exposed to 4 ppm diazinon showing a severe reduction in excretion of amorphous proteinaceous materials and vesicles. The cell surface canals were blocked. Mag: A= x250, B= x2600, C= x2500, D= x2500.	148
6.1	Diagram of fish immunization procedure, with positive and negative control groups	167
6.2	Diagram of serial dilution for microagglutination test	170